New Aboriginal Data – Coming in Fall 2008

Statistics Canada
Why are Aboriginal Statistics important?

- Honour and acknowledge Aboriginal peoples;
- Provide up-to-date information;
- Track changes over time;
- Inform decision-making;
- Support academic research.
Defining the Aboriginal Population

Many ways including:

- Aboriginal identity: People who identify themselves as
  - North American Indian, Métis or Inuit;
  - And/or
  - Treaty Indian or Registered Indian as defined by the Indian Act of Canada;
  - And/or
  - Member of an Indian Band or First Nation.

- Aboriginal ancestry: People who have Aboriginal ancestors.
The Census and Aboriginal Data

- Important source of information;
- Aboriginal identity (January 15, 2008);
- Education and labour force (March 4, 2008);
- Aboriginal ancestry (April 4, 2008);
- Income and earnings (May 1, 2008);
- Housing and shelter costs (May 1, 2008).
2006 Census Highlights

- Aboriginal people surpass one-million mark:
  - Comprised 3.8% of Canadian population;
  - Grew by 45% between 1996 and 2006.

- Half of the Aboriginal population comprised children and youth:
  - Median age 27 years (40 years for non-Aboriginal population);
  - More information: www.statcan.ca.
Aboriginal Surveys

- Aboriginal Children’s Survey (ACS):
  - 0 to 5 years.

- Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS):
  - 6 to 14 years;
  - 15 years and over.

- Data available: Fall 2008.
Aboriginal Children’s Survey (ACS)

Statistics Canada
ACS – Overview

- A new survey;
- Every 5 years after the Census;
- Holistic portrait;
- Development and Well-being;
- First Nations (status and non-status), Inuit, Métis children, under the age of 6 years;
- Sponsored by Human Resources and Social Development Canada.
ACS – Overview (Continued)

- Involvement of Aboriginal people;
- Collection: October 2006 to March 2007;
- Sample of approximately 18,000 Aboriginal children.
ACS – Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

- Diverse group of professionals;
- Expertise in many areas relating to Aboriginal Children:
  - Includes First Nations, Inuit and Métis professionals;
  - From across Canada.
Provide advice and guidance throughout survey process:
- FN, Inuit, Métis perspective;
- Work to ensure data is meaningful.

Participation is tied to personal commitment to the well-being of Aboriginal Children.
ACS – Survey Content

- holistic in nature.

Topics:
- Relationships within the household;
- Health; Food & nutrition; Sleep;
- Development;
- Nurturing;
- Child care; School;
- Language;
- Behaviour;
- Activities.
ACS – Survey Content (Continued)

- Parent information;
- Neighbourhood / community;
- Additional household information from the Census.
ACS – Data Collection

- October 2006 to March 2007;
- Face to face interviews;
- Telephone interviews;
- Translated into 6 Aboriginal languages;
- Interpreters used;
- Aboriginal interviewers wherever possible;
- Response rate: approximately 82%.
ACS – Domains of Estimation

- No community level data;
- Provinces / Territories:
  - Atlantic provinces aggregated.
- 4 Inuit regions;
- By Aboriginal group (Inuit, Métis, FN off-reserve):
  - where possible.
- By age group (0-1, 2-3, 4-5):
  - where possible.
ACS – Data Products

- Analytical Articles;
- Fact Sheets;
- Profiles;
- Custom tabulations;
- Analytical File in Research Data Centres.
Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS)

Statistics Canada
APS – Overview

- Social and economic conditions;
- Inuit, Métis and First Nations people living off reserves;
- Ages:
  - 6-14 years;
  - 15 years and over.
- Conducted in 1991, 2001 and 2006;
- Partnership with national Aboriginal organizations.
Collection – October 2006 to March 2007;

Sample of approximately 60,000 Aboriginal persons.
APS – Involvement of National Aboriginal Organizations

- Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP);
- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK);
- The Métis National Council (MNC);
- National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC);
- Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC).
APS – Questionnaires

- Children and youth (6–14 years);
- Adults (15 years or more):
  - Métis supplement;
  - Arctic supplement.
APS – Children and Youth

- Demographics;
- General Health;
- Health Care Utilization;
- Activities of Daily Living and Medical Conditions;
- Physical Injuries;
- Dental Care;
- Nutrition;
- Education;
- Social Activities and Relationships;
- Language;
- Household Data.
APS – Adults

- Education;
- Language;
- Labour Activity;
- Income;
- Health;
- Communication technology;
- Mobility;
- Housing.
APS – Métis Supplement

- Family Background;
- Child Welfare;
- Social Interaction;
- Health.
APS – Arctic Supplement

- Household and Harvesting Activities;
- Personal Wellness;
- Community Wellness and Social Participation.
APS – Data Collection

- October 2006 to March 2007;
- Face to face interviews;
- Telephone interviews;
- Translated into 20 Aboriginal languages;
- Interpreters used;
- Aboriginal interviewers wherever possible;
- Response rate: approximately 80%.
APS – Domains of Estimation

- By Aboriginal group where possible;
- For Canada, provinces/territories;
- 4 Inuit regions;
- Some communities:
  - Inuit communities;
  - Selected urban areas with large Aboriginal populations.
APS – Data Products

- Analytical Articles;
- Fact Sheets;
- Profiles;
- Custom tabulations;
- Public Use Microdata File;
- Analytical File in Research Data Centres.
Considerations for Analyzing Aboriginal Data

- Participation of Aboriginal Peoples;
- Context;
- Balanced stories;
- Comparisons when there is value;
- No pan-Aboriginal data;
- Appropriate terminology.
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